

SPECIAL COMMITTEES

ASSABET RIVER RAIL TRAIL COMMITTEE

With the purchase of the trail easement from the Maynard line to Sudbury Road completed in 2009, our committee continued to explore routes to continue the trail to Hudson. In the spring, Clark University graduate students undertook a project to use GIS and other data to map potentially suitable routes to make that connection from Sudbury Road to Hudson. Although the results were interesting, the committee felt that none of the routes were feasible.

In June the committee reported to the Selectmen that we were stymied in our efforts to find a suitable route to connect to the trail in Hudson, and had gone as far as we could. In July the Selectmen voted to dissolve the Rail Trail Committee, and voted to form a Multi-use Path Committee.

Rail Trail activities continued. Several representatives of the Town attended an August meeting of the Metropolitan Planning Organization in Boston, where we learned that monies were still available for the design and construction of the Stow portion of the trail, and that Stow might be able to join the existing Acton-Maynard design project, which was expected to restart soon. The November Special Town Meeting approved the expenditure of \$46,000 of CPA funds as Stow's share of the expected design cost of the "Track Road" portion. The Selectmen held a public meeting for discussion and input about trail uses and users, trail surfacing options and trailside amenities. They then developed a questionnaire for use at other public meetings and online for additional public input. The questionnaire closed on January 15, 2011.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Rising, Chairman

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BUILDING COMMITTEE

The Elementary School Building Committee was formed following the 2007 Annual Town Meeting, which voted to support an addition/renovation at Center Elementary School. As outlined by the selectmen, the ESBC duties are to:

Direct and oversee the renovation and addition to the Center School, as recommended by the School Building Task Force and approved by the residents of Stow in May 2007. To include bringing a firm estimate of cost to Town Meeting for approval. To include hiring design services, contractor and other professionals as required. The Committee shall use the final report of the School Building Task Force as well as the Stow Schools Master Plan in their work. Committee members will need to be versed in the requirements of the Mass. School Building Authority (MSBA) and ensure that the building project meets all the requirements for potential reimbursement.